Asseco SEE

Bloomberg: ASE PW Equity, Reuters: ASEP.WA

Buy, PLN 20.5

Initiation



19 July 2019, 07:30

The Balkan connection

Asseco South Eastern Europe is an IT company primarily operating in South East Europe and in Turkey. Its key segment comprises payment solutions. ASEE also deals in banking services and system integration. The group acquired a majority stake in Necomplus in 2019; Necomplus is a payment industry company operating in Spain. Portugal and Latin America. We are expecting the revenue to increase quickest in the payment segment going forward, primarily because of the growth in payment terminal services, e-commerce and payment processing. We expect ASEE to continue its acquisition strategy in the medium term but, thanks to its strong balance sheet (net cash) and solid FCF, it will continue to pay out dividends (dividend yield is assumed at 3-5%). We are initiating the coverage of ASEE with a BUY recommendation and a TP of PLN 20.5 per share.

Strong competences in the payment segment

Asseco South Eastern Europe specialises in payment processing; the company deals with payment terminal and ATM services, e-commerce and payment transaction processing. The company began spinning off the payment segment to a separate entity Payten in 2017, which may soon be floated on the stock exchange. ASEE enjoys a significant share in its markets, especially former Yugoslavian countries. In our opinion, e-commerce solutions, payment terminal services and transaction processing are ASEE's most promising business lines. Meanwhile, we expect the company to generate low single-digit growth in the ATM service segment in the long term.

A very good 2019 and a significant mid-term improvement in results

We expect the company to generate very good results in 2019, primarily in the payment segment. Our assumptions are backed by a very strong backlog which, excluding acquisitions, provides for an increase by +11% in revenue and +12% in gross margin for the whole group in 2019. In the payment segment, on the other hand, the 2019 backlog implies an increase of +13% in revenue and +22% in gross margin. Ecommerce, payment transaction processing, the newly established independent ATM network, and omnichannel banking solutions are the main source of this growth.

Growth + a solid balance sheet and FCF

The company intends to keep growing dynamically, especially in the payment segment. In a recent interview, the company's CEO stated that an increase in operating profit of 50% in three years is realistic, taking into consideration both organic growth and acquisitions (we estimate that excluding acquisitions, operating profit will grow by approx. 35% in three years). Given the amount of net cash (approx. PLN 30m at the end of 1Q19) and strong FCF, the company should be able to consolidate the market while continuing the payment of dividends (we estimate the dividend yield at 3-5%).

PLN mn	2017	2018	2019F	2020F	2021F
Revenues	571	670	795	846	880
EBITDA	106	120	149	154	163
EBIT	66	74	89	93	101
Net profit	55	65	74	77	84
P/E	11.2	9.5	11.8	11.3	10.4
P/BV	0.9	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.0
EV/EBITDA	5.7	4.0	5.3	4.9	4.4
EPS	1.06	1.26	1.42	1.48	1.61
DPS	0.52	0.52	0.54	0.74	0.80
FCF	-	-	69	73	82
CAPEX	-69	-40	-45	-45	-46

F - forecast by PKO BP Securities

Key data	
Market price (PLN)	16.80
Upside	22%
No. of shares (mn)	51.89
Market Cap (PLNmn)	871.82
Free float	49%
Free float (PLNmn)	426
Free float (USDmn)	112
EV (PLNmn)	793.02
Net debt (PLNmn)	-78.80

Dividend	
Div yield	3.1%
Ex-div	-

Major Shareholders	% of shares
Asseco International	51.10
Aviva OFE	18.20
Aviva TFI	5.00
ASEE managers	4.30

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Previous recomm.	Date & target price



	WIG20	Company
1 month	-0.2%	1.2%
3 months	-1.9%	16.7%
6 months	-2.4%	33.3%
12 months	8.0%	42.4%
Min 52 weeks PLN		10.70
Max 52 weeks PLN		17.40
Av. turnover/day PLN mn		0.13

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Risk factors

- Macroeconomic and political situation in the region
- Decline in IT investments in the financial sector
- Increased competition
- Pressure on wages in the IT expert market
- Increase in the share of cashless payments and a decline in demand for ATMs
- ➤ F/X risk

Valuation

Our valuation is based on the DCF model. The DCF model consists of two phases. In the first stage (2019F-2023F), we have forecast all the key parameters that influence the company's value. In the second stage, we have assumed a 2% growth rate.

We have applied a WACC-based discount rate. The risk-free rate for PLN has been assumed at 3.2%, which reflects the yield level of 10-year Treasury bonds. Beta has been assumed at 1x, taking into account the company's strong equity structure. Equity risk premium has been assumed at 8% due to a relatively higher risk of the countries where the company operates (primarily SEE and Turkey). We have discounted all free cash flows as at 31 December 2019 and added net cash.

DCF model						
PLN mn	2019	2020F	2021F	2022F	2023F	2023F<
EBIT	88.6	93.2	100.7	106.0	110.5	111.8
Tax rate	18%	18%	18%	18%	18%	18%
NOPLAT	72.7	76.4	82.6	86.9	90.6	91.7
CAPEX	-44.7	-45.3	-45.8	-46.4	-47.0	-50.0
Depreciation (excl. Right-of-use)	46.9	47.9	48.8	48.4	48.1	50.0
Changes in working capital	-5.6	-6.1	-3.9	-4.1	-3.9	-1.2
FCFF	69.3	73.0	81.7	84.8	87.9	90.6
WACC	11.0%	11.0%	11.1%	11.1%	11.2%	11.2%
Discount ratio	0.00	0.90	0.81	0.73	0.66	0.59
DFCF		65.8	66.3	61.9	57.7	
Growth in Phase II	2.0%					
DFCF Sum - Phase I	251.7					
DFCF Sum - Phase II	647.0					
Enterprise Value (EV)	898.6					
Net debt (excl. Leases)	-125.2					
Minority share	17.9					
Fair value	1,006.0					
Number of shares (million)	51.9					
Fair value per share as at 31.12.2019	19.4					
Target price in 12 mths (PLN)	20.5					
Current price	16.80					
Expected rate of return	22.3%					

Source: forecasts of PKO BP Securities



59%

60%

Peers

ASEE is traded with 40-60% discount to peers, from both software and payment sectors. In our opinion, some discount is justified due to higher level of risk in countries (mainly the Balkans). Nevertheless, we believe that over 40% discount is too high and we see ASEE's valuation as attractive.

attractive.											
Peers: multiples											
		Dividend yield				P/E			EV/EBITDA		
Company		2019F	2020F	2021F	2019F	2020F	2021F	2019F	2020F	2021F	
<u>Software:</u>											
Asseco Poland	Poland	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	15.6	14.7	14.5	8.8	8.4	7.9	
Comarch	Poland	0.8%	2.6%	3.7%	14.8	12.1	11.4	6.3	5.9	5.6	
Asseco Business Solutions	Poland	6.2%	7.4%	7.8%	14.4	13.4	12.8	9.3	8.7	8.4	
Microsoft	USA	1.3%	1.4%	1.6%	30.0	27.0	23.5	18.9	16.8	14.7	
SAP	Germany	1.3%	1.5%	1.6%	24.7	22.1	19.8	18.9	16.1	14.3	
Oracle	USA	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%	17.2	15.2	14.2	11.8	11.1	10.7	
Capgemini	France	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%	17.6	16.0	14.7	9.9	9.3	8.8	
Adobe Systsems	USA	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	39.3	31.5	26.5	29.9	24.7	21.3	
Atos	France	2.0%	2.2%	2.5%	9.4	8.8	8.2	8.7	8.3	8.2	
Guidewire Software	USA	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	72.3	76.1	61.0	55.9	51.8	31.2	
Infosys	India	3.1%	3.1%	3.5%	21.5	20.5	18.4	15.4	14.6	13.2	
PTC	USA	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.8	34.9	23.4	32.5	23.8	18.1	
Constellation Software	Canada	1.5%	0.4%	0.4%	32.0	26.1	22.6	21.9	18.3	16.2	
Sage Group	UK	2.1%	2.2%	2.2%	27.0	25.1	23.1	18.3	17.2	15.8	
Intuit	USA	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	42.1	37.3	33.1	28.2	25.0	22.8	
Reply	Italy	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	21.3			12.5			
Sopra Streria Group	France	2.3%	2.9%	3.4%	10.8	8.8	7.8	6.4	5.7	5.3	
NNIT	Denmark	3.4%	3.5%	3.7%	13.0	12.8	12.0	6.4	6.3	6.2	
Softcat	UK	2.3%	2.4%	2.6%	28.9	27.2	25.5	22.6	21.3	20.1	
MEDIAN (software)		1.5%	1.9%	2.2%	21.5	20.5	18.4	15.4	14.6	13.2	
Payment:		0.007	0.004	0.00/	00.7	00.0	40.4	100	44.0	40.7	
Euronet Worldwide	USA	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	23.7	20.3	18.1	13.8	11.9	10.5	
Firstdata	USA	0.0%	0.0%		17.8	15.5	13.5	12.7	11.9	11.1	
Worldpay	UK -	0.0%	0.0%		28.0	24.1	21.2	22.6	20.0	18.0	
Ingenico	France	1.7%	1.9%	2.1%	16.7	15.0	13.6	11.2	10.4	9.5	
Wirecard	Germany	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	34.4	25.7	17.2	21.1	16.0	11.4	
MEDIAN (payment)		0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	23.7	20.3	17.2	13.8	11.9	11.1	
Asseco South Eastern Europe		3.3%	4.6%	4.9%	11.9	11.4	10.5	5.5	4.9	4.4	
discount to soiftware companies					45%	45%	43%	65%	67%	67%	

50%

44%

39%

60%

Source: Bloomberg, PKO BP Securities

discount to payment companies



Financial Forecasts

Profit and loss account	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019F	2020F	2021F	2022F
Sales of products, goods and materials	501	487	571	571	670	795	846	880	916
Costs of sold products, goods and materials	-383	-362	-434	-427	-509	-606	-640	-665	-691
Gross profit on sales	118	125	136	144	161	189	206	215	225
EBITDA	69	83	94	106	120	149	154	163	168
Selling costs	-36	-37	-38	-35	-47	-56	-59	-62	-64
General administrative expenses	-35	-36	-42	-43	-39	-48	-51	-53	-55
Other operating income	2	3	2	1	2	0	0	0	0
Other operating costs	-2	-2	-1	-2	-2	0	0	0	0
Operating profit	46	53	57	66	74	89	93	101	106
Share in profit of associates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax profit	46	54	61	67	78	90	94	102	108
Income tax	-7	-10	-9	-12	-13	-16	-17	-18	-19
Net profit (loss) attributable to non-controlling interest	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Net Profit (loss)	39	44	52	55	65	74	77	84	88
Balance Sheet	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019F	2020F	2021F	2022F
Fixed assets	613	614	643	631	628	714	711	708	706
Intangible assets	536	522	536	493	492	522	520	518	517
Tangible assets	70	86	102	132	129	185	185	183	183
Investments	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
Other long-term assets	7	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6
Current assets	235	235	304	288	362	372	420	460	515
Inventories	16	16	23	25	17	20	21	22	23
Receivables	115	104	143	136	161	182	192	200	207
Cash and cash equivalents	92	104	123	117	169	154	191	223	270
Other short-term assets	12	12	14	10	15	15	15	15	15
Total Assets	848	849	946	918	990	1,086	1,131	1,169	1,222
Equity capital	679	688	732	719	765	811	860	905	951
Non-controlling interests	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Liabilities	169	161	214	199	224	274	271	264	271
Long-term liabilities	27	29	29	29	22	40	34	26	27
Loans and borrowings	22	27	25	24	18	26	25	23	23
Other provisions	5	3	5	6	4	14	9	4	4
Short-term liabilities	143	131	185	170	202	235	238	238	244
Loans and borrowings	24	21	24	24	32	45	43	39	41
Other provisions	38	45	62	32	36	36	36	36	36
Trade liabilities and other	80	65	95	82	102	120	126	130	134
Total Liabilities	848	849	946	918	990	1,086	1,131	1,169	1,222
Cash flow statement	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019F	2020F	2021F	2022F
Cash flow on operating activity	73	75	88	94	121	128	132	141	145
Cash flow on investment activity	-59	-42	-38	-65	-43	-77	-50	-51	-46
Cash flow on financial activity	15	-20	-30	-24	-28	-65	-45	-57	-52
Indicators (%)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019F	2020F	2021F	2022F
ROE	-	6.4%	7.3%	7.6%	8.8%	9.3%	9.2%	9.5%	9.5%
Net Debt	-42.7	-53.0	-71.0	-68.2	-114.9	-78.8	-119.2	-158.1	-202.1

Source: forecasts of PKO BP Securities

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min (max) 52 weeks: minimum (maximum) of the market share price during the previous 52 weeks

Capitalisation: product of the share market price and the number of shares

EV: sum of the company's capitalisation and net debt

free float (%): share of the total number of shares decreased by 5% stakes held by one shareholder and own shares held by the company in the total number of shares Average trading/month: average trading per month calculated as total trading value over previous 12 months divided by 12

ROE: rate of return on equity

ROA: rate of return on assets

EBIT: operating profit

EBITDA: operating profit + depreciation and amortization

EPS: earnings per share DPS: dividend per 1 share CEPS: sum of net profit and depreciation and amortization per 1 share P/E: quotient of share market price and EPS P/BV: quotient of share market price and book value of one share EV/EBITDA: quotient of capitalisation increased by the company's net debt and EBITDA Gross sales margin: relation of gross sales profit to net sales proceeds EBITDA margin: relation of the sum of operating profit and depreciation to net sales proceeds EBIT margin: relation of operating profit to net sales proceeds Net profitability: relation of net profit to net sales proceeds

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A PKO BP Securities recommendation is based on at least two out of four valuation methods: DCF (discounted cash flow model), ratio analysis method (comparing the values of basic market ratios with similar ratios of other companies representing a given sector), sum of the parts of assets method (SOTP) and discounted dividends model. A disadvantage of the DCF and the discounted dividends model is their high sensitivity to adopted assumptions, including, in particular, those pertaining to determining the residual value. Furthermore, the discounted dividends model cannot be applied to the valuation of companies without a determined dividend policy. The advantages of both these methods include their independence from current market valuations of peer companies. On the other hand, the advantage of the ratio analysis is the fact that it is based on a measurable market valuation of a given sector. Its disadvantage lies in the risk that at any given time, the market might not value peer companies correctly. The sum of the parts method (SOTP) consists in summing up the values of various assets of the company, calculated using one of the above methods.

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A HOLD recommendation means that the recommendation author thinks that company shares have the potential for growth between 0 and a 10%.

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Issuer:	Reservation		
Asseco SEE	-		

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Information Technology



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Company Recommendation Date of reco.		Target Relevant Market cap.		P/E EV/EBITDA					Analyst			
Company Recommendation Date of reco.	price	Market Price*	(PLN mn)	2018	2019F	2020F	2018	2019F	2020F	Andryst		
Asseco SEE	Виу	19-07-19	20.50	16.8	877.01	9.5	11.9	11.4	4.0	5.4	4.9	Małgorzata Żelazko

 $^{^{\}star}$ at the time of publication